



April 5, 2021

The Honorable Ken Calvert  
United States House of Representatives  
U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

**Subject: Support for the Riverside County Transportation Commission's Community Project Funding Request**

Dear Congressman Calvert:

I am writing to express the Temecula Valley Chamber of Commerce's strong support for the Riverside County Transportation Commission's (RCTC) \$3 million Community Project Funding request for the Interstate 15 Corridor Operations Project (I-15 COP). This \$38 million project is regionally significant, socially equitable, and will benefit the health and safety of our region's residents, businesses, and freight and goods movement.

The project proposes to add an auxiliary lane on southbound I-15 between Cajalco Road in Corona and Weirick Road in Temescal Valley in Riverside County. The auxiliary lane is designed to relieve heavy traffic congestion in this area, especially during peak afternoon commute times, by removing a bottleneck to accommodate existing and future traffic volumes. The project will also be compatible with other RCTC planned I-15 corridor improvements, such as the future I-15 Express Lanes Project Southern Extension, expected to be open as early as 2028.

The I-15 COP will benefit our region by:

- **Expanding Regional Mobility:** The project will help reduce vehicle congestion that is prevalent during peak afternoon commute hours.
- **Increasing Safety:** Adding an auxiliary lane will reduce weaving at the high use exits of Cajalco Road in Corona and Weirick Road in Temescal Valley, reducing chances of vehicle collisions.
- **Enhancing Economic Development:** Traffic congestion relief is essential to the region's economic vitality, due to Interstate 15's role in carrying commuters, freight, and

regional tourists. Low-income communities are concentrated both in the I-15/State Route-91 corridor of Corona to the north of the project and in Lake Elsinore to the south of the project, and this improvement would improve access to job centers and increase productivity.

- **Improving Transit:** This project will expand multimodal options by optimizing travel conditions on I-15 for riders of Riverside Transit Agency CommuterLink Express Routes 205/206 between Temecula and Corona, as well as job centers beyond via Metrolink.
- **Supporting All Communities:** Relieving traffic congestion is also critical for this area, particularly disadvantaged communities east of the I-15 and project area, which experience high levels of pollution particulates, largely from idling vehicles on I-15.

This project is regionally significant. In the western United States, the I-15 corridor is the spine of a transportation network extending more than 1,470 miles through California, Nevada, Arizona, Utah, Idaho, and Montana. I-15 links coastal ports to inland population centers and connects with major east-west corridors that serve the entire U.S. The I-15 corridor links the San Diego metropolitan area with the Riverside-San Bernardino metropolitan area. Due to rapid population growth in recent years in the California Mojave Desert region, I-15 has become a heavily traveled commuter route between metropolitan Southern California and the Victor Valley. It is also the primary access route between Southern California and Las Vegas with more than 25 million people driving this corridor annually.

I-15 COP deserves Community Project Funding because of the immediate positive effect it will have on our region's residents, the economy, and the environment. I encourage you to give it full and fair consideration.

For questions regarding this letter of support, please contact me at 951-676-5090.

Sincerely,  
  
Emily Falappino  
President/CEO



Greater Corona Traffic Alliance  
Corona, California  
[info@trafficalliance.org](mailto:info@trafficalliance.org)

April 5, 2021

The Honorable Ken Calvert  
United States House of Representatives  
U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

**Subject: Support for the Riverside County Transportation Commission's Community Project Funding Request**

Dear Congressman Calvert:

The Greater Corona Traffic Alliance (GCTA) is a grass-roots citizen advocacy group representing about five thousand registered residents and many more who geographically live in multiple cities located in Riverside, San Bernardino and Orange Counties, along the SR-91, SR-71 and I-15 corridors. GCTA advocates for solutions to ease severe congestion on these critical transportation and economic links between inland California and the coastal region.

I am writing to express GCTA's strong support for the Riverside County Transportation Commission's (RCTC) \$3 million Community Project Funding request for the Interstate 15 Corridor Operations Project (I-15 COP). This \$38 million project is regionally significant, socially equitable, and will benefit the health and safety of our region's residents, businesses, and freight and goods movement.

The project proposes to add an auxiliary lane on southbound I-15 between Cajalco Road in Corona and Weirick Road in Temescal Valley in Riverside County. The auxiliary lane is designed to relieve heavy traffic congestion in this area, especially during peak afternoon commute times, by removing a bottleneck to accommodate existing and future traffic volumes. The project will also be compatible with other RCTC planned I-15 corridor improvements, such as the future I-15 Express Lanes Project Southern Extension, expected to be open as early as 2028.

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- **Improving Transit:** This project will expand multimodal options by optimizing travel conditions on I-15 for riders of Riverside Transit Agency CommuterLink Express Routes 205/206 between Temecula and Corona, as well as job centers beyond via Metrolink.
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This project is regionally significant. In the western United States, the I-15 corridor is the spine of a transportation network extending more than 1,470 miles through California, Nevada, Arizona, Utah, Idaho, and Montana. I-15 links coastal ports to inland population centers and connects with major east-west corridors that serve the entire U.S. The I-15 corridor links the San Diego metropolitan area with the Riverside-San Bernardino metropolitan area. Due to rapid population growth in recent years in the California Mojave Desert region, I-15 has become a heavily traveled commuter route between metropolitan Southern California and the Victor Valley. It is also the primary access route between Southern California and Las Vegas with more than 25 million people driving this corridor annually.

I-15 COP deserves Community Project Funding because of the immediate positive effect it will have on our region's residents, the economy, and the environment. I encourage you to give it full and fair consideration.

For questions regarding this letter of support, please contact me at [nibrahim@niassoc.com](mailto:nibrahim@niassoc.com).

Sincerely,



Ned Ibrahim, M.S.C.E., P.E.  
For **Greater Corona Traffic Alliance**



April 7, 2021

The Honorable Ken Calvert  
United States House of Representatives  
U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

**Subject: Support for the Riverside County Transportation Commission's Community Project Funding Request**

Dear Congressman Calvert:

I am writing to express the City of Lake Elsinore's strong support for the Riverside County Transportation Commission's (RCTC) \$3 million Community Project Funding request for the Interstate 15 Corridor Operations Project (I-15 COP). This \$38 million project is regionally significant, socially equitable, and will benefit the health and safety of our region's residents, businesses, and freight and goods movement.

The project proposes to add an auxiliary lane on southbound I-15 between Cajalco Road in Corona and Weirick Road in Temescal Valley in Riverside County. The auxiliary lane is designed to relieve heavy traffic congestion in this area, especially during peak afternoon commute times, by removing a bottleneck to accommodate existing and future traffic volumes. The project will also be compatible with other RCTC planned I-15 corridor improvements, such as the future I-15 Express Lanes Project Southern Extension, expected to be open as early as 2028.

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951.674.3124

130 S. MAIN STREET

LAKE ELSINORE, CA 92530

WWW.LAKE-ELSINORE.ORG

April 7, 2021  
Page 2.  
RCTC Funding Request

**Improving Transit:** This project will expand multimodal options by optimizing travel conditions on I-15 for riders of Riverside Transit Agency CommuterLink Express Routes 205/206 between Temecula and Corona, as well as job centers beyond via Metrolink.

**Supporting All Communities:** Relieving traffic congestion is also critical for this area, particularly disadvantaged communities east of the I-15 and project area, which experience high levels of pollution particulates, largely from idling vehicles on I-15.

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I-15 COP deserves Community Project Funding because of the immediate positive effect it will have on our region's residents, the economy, and the environment. I encourage you to give it full and fair consideration.

For questions regarding this letter of support, please contact me at [jsimpson@lake-elsinore.org](mailto:jsimpson@lake-elsinore.org) or at (951) 674-3124, ext. 204.

Sincerely,



Jason Simpson  
City Manager

951.674.3124

130 S. MAIN STREET

LAKE ELSINORE, CA 92530

WWW.LAKE-ELSINORE.ORG



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
900 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 1700  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
T: (213) 236-1800  
www.scag.ca.gov

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- Transportation  
**Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro**

April 6, 2021

Honorable Ken Calvert  
United States House of Representatives  
2205 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

**RE: Support for the Riverside County Transportation Commission's I-15 COP  
Community Project Funding Request**

Dear Congressman Calvert:

On behalf of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), I am pleased to support the Riverside County Transportation Commission's (RCTC) \$3 million Community Project Funding request for the Interstate 15 Corridor Operations Project (I-15 COP). This \$38 million project is regionally significant, socially equitable, and will benefit the health and safety of our region's residents, businesses, and freight and goods movement.

The project proposes to add an auxiliary lane on southbound I-15 between Cajalco Road in Corona and Weirick Road in Temescal Valley in Riverside County. The auxiliary lane is designed to relieve heavy traffic congestion in this area, especially during peak afternoon commute times, by removing a bottleneck to accommodate existing and future traffic volumes. The project will also be compatible with other RCTC planned I-15 corridor improvements, such as the future I-15 Express Lanes Project Southern Extension, expected to be open as early as 2028.

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- **Improving Transit:** This project will expand multimodal options by optimizing travel conditions on I-15 for riders of Riverside Transit Agency CommuterLink Express Routes 205/206 between Temecula and Corona, as well as job centers beyond via Metrolink.

- **Supporting All Communities:** Relieving traffic congestion is also critical for this area, particularly disadvantaged communities east of the I-15 and project area, which experience high levels of pollution particulates, primarily from idling vehicles on I-15.

This project is regionally significant as in the western United States, the I-15 corridor is the spine of a transportation network extending more than 1,470 miles through California, Nevada, Arizona, Utah, Idaho, and Montana. I-15 links coastal ports to inland population centers and connects with major east-west corridors that serve the entire U.S. The I-15 corridor links the San Diego metropolitan area with the Riverside-San Bernardino metropolitan area. Due to rapid population growth in recent years in the California Mojave Desert region, I-15 has become a heavily traveled commuter route between urban Southern California and the Victor Valley. It is also the primary access route between Southern California and Las Vegas, with more than 25 million people driving this corridor annually. I-15 COP deserves Community Project Funding because of the immediate positive effect it would have on our region's residents, the economy, and the environment.

As a project that is consistent with the policies and goals set forth in Connect SoCal - the 2020-2045 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS), SCAG supports RCTC's efforts and respectfully requests your office to give full consideration to their community project funding request. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Naresh Amatya, Manager of Transportation Planning and Programming, at (213) 236-1885 or by email at [amatya@scag.ca.gov](mailto:amatya@scag.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Kome Ajise  
Executive Director

## California Department of Transportation

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR  
P.O. BOX 942873, MS-49 | SACRAMENTO, CA 94273-0001  
(916) 654-6130 | FAX (916) 653-5776 TTY 711  
[www.dot.ca.gov](http://www.dot.ca.gov)



April 7, 2021

Dear California Congressional Member:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is pleased to support the request from the Riverside County Transportation Commission for Congressional Community Project Funding for the Interstate 15 Corridor Operation Project.

President Biden's announcement of a major infrastructure initiative – a \$2 trillion, eight-year "American Jobs Plan," and the surface transportation reauthorization legislation, presents opportunities for Congress to make critical investments in infrastructure that will address decades of inequities and the rising challenge of climate change, while also spurring economic growth. This will lead the way to developing a brighter future for all.

Caltrans assessed letter of support requests from local agencies based on guiding principles supporting state priorities in collaboration with the California State Transportation Agency. Therefore, I am confident the approval of this request will help to support a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Omishakin'.

TOKS OMISHAKIN  
Director

c: Riverside County Transportation Commission



## Western Riverside Council of Governments

County of Riverside • City of Banning • City of Beaumont • City of Calimesa • City of Canyon Lake • City of Corona • City of Eastvale • City of Hemet City of Jurupa Valley • City of Lake Elsinore • City of Menifee • City of Moreno Valley • City of Murrieta • City of Norco • City of Perris • City of Riverside • City of San Jacinto • City of Temecula • City of Wildomar • Eastern Municipal Water District • Western Municipal Water District • Riverside County Superintendent of Schools

April 5, 2021

The Honorable Ken Calvert  
United States House of Representatives  
U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

**Subject: Support for the Riverside County Transportation Commission's Community Project Funding Request**

Dear Congressman Calvert:

I am writing to express WRCOG's strong support for the Riverside County Transportation Commission's (RCTC) \$3 million Community Project Funding request for the Interstate 15 Corridor Operations Project (I-15 COP). This \$38 million project is regionally significant, socially equitable, and will benefit the health and safety of our region's residents, businesses, and freight and goods movement.

The project proposes to add an auxiliary lane on southbound I-15 between Cajalco Road in Corona and Weirick Road in Temescal Valley in Riverside County. The auxiliary lane is designed to relieve heavy traffic congestion in this area, especially during peak afternoon commute times, by removing a bottleneck to accommodate existing and future traffic volumes. The project will also be compatible with other RCTC planned I-15 corridor improvements, such as the future I-15 Express Lanes Project Southern Extension, expected to be open as early as 2028.

The I-15 COP will benefit our region by:

- **Expanding Regional Mobility:** The project will help reduce vehicle congestion that is prevalent during peak afternoon commute hours.
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- **Improving Transit:** This project will expand multimodal options by optimizing travel conditions on I-15 for riders of Riverside Transit Agency CommuterLink Express Routes 205/206 between Temecula and Corona, as well as job centers beyond via Metrolink.

Honorable Calvert

4/5/2021

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- **Supporting All Communities:** Relieving traffic congestion is also critical for this area, particularly disadvantaged communities east of the I-15 and project area, which experience high levels of pollution particulates, largely from idling vehicles on I-15.

This project is regionally significant. In the western United States, the I-15 corridor is the spine of a transportation network extending more than 1,470 miles through California, Nevada, Arizona, Utah, Idaho, and Montana. I-15 links coastal ports to inland population centers and connects with major east-west corridors that serve the entire U.S. The I-15 corridor links the San Diego metropolitan area with the Riverside-San Bernardino metropolitan area. Due to rapid population growth in recent years in the California Mojave Desert region, I-15 has become a heavily traveled commuter route between metropolitan Southern California and the Victor Valley. It is also the primary access route between Southern California and Las Vegas with more than 25 million people driving this corridor annually.

I-15 COP deserves Community Project Funding because of the immediate positive effect it will have on our region's residents, the economy, and the environment. I encourage you to give it full and fair consideration. Should you have any questions regarding this letter of support, please do not hesitate to contact me at (951) 405-6710 or at [cgray@wrcog.us](mailto:cgray@wrcog.us).

Sincerely,

*Christopher Gray*

Christopher Gray  
Deputy Executive Director  
Western Riverside Council of Governments



4080 Lemon St. 3rd Fl. Riverside, CA 92501  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 12008 Riverside, CA 92502-2208  
951.787.7141 • [rctc.org](http://rctc.org)

April 23, 2021

The Honorable Ken Calvert  
United States House of Representatives  
U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

**Subject: Support for the Riverside County Transportation Commission's Surface Transportation Reauthorization Member Designated Project Funding Request**

Dear Congressman Calvert:

On behalf of the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC), I am pleased to request surface transportation reauthorization Member Designated Project funding of \$3 million for the Interstate 15 Corridor Operations Project (I-15 COP). This \$38 million project is regionally significant, socially equitable, and will benefit the health and safety of our region's residents, businesses, and freight and goods movement.

Eligible under 23 U.S.C. 133(b)(1) and 23 U.S.C. 119(d)(2)(A), the project proposes to add an auxiliary lane on southbound I-15 between Cajalco Road in Corona and Weirick Road in Temescal Valley in Riverside County. The auxiliary lane is designed to relieve heavy traffic congestion in this area, especially during peak afternoon commute times, by removing a bottleneck to accommodate existing and future traffic volumes. The project will also be compatible with other RCTC planned I-15 corridor improvements, such as the future I-15 Express Lanes Project Southern Extension, expected to be open as early as 2028.

The I-15 COP will benefit our region by:

- **Expanding Regional Mobility:** The project will help reduce vehicle congestion that is prevalent during peak afternoon commute hours.
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The Honorable Ken Calvert

April 23, 2021

Page 2

- **Improving Transit:** This project will expand multimodal options by optimizing travel conditions on I-15 for riders of Riverside Transit Agency CommuterLink Express Routes 205/206 between Temecula and Corona, as well as job centers beyond via Metrolink.
- **Supporting All Communities:** Relieving traffic congestion is also critical for this area, particularly disadvantaged communities east of the I-15 and project area, which experience high levels of pollution particulates, largely from idling vehicles on I-15.

This project is regionally significant. In the western United States, the I-15 corridor is the spine of a transportation network extending more than 1,470 miles through California, Nevada, Arizona, Utah, Idaho, and Montana. I-15 links coastal ports to inland population centers and connects with major east-west corridors that serve the entire country. The I-15 corridor links the San Diego metropolitan area with the Riverside-San Bernardino metropolitan area. Due to rapid population growth in recent years in the California Mojave Desert region, I-15 has become a heavily traveled commuter route between metropolitan southern California and the Victor Valley. It is also the primary access route between southern California and Las Vegas with more than 25 million people driving this corridor annually.

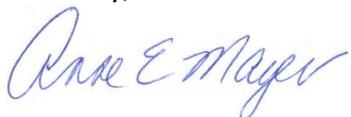
Additionally, the I-15 COP is shovel-ready. The proposed project is included in the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) adopted Final 2021 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) as Project Identification (ID) RIV181113. All funding sources for the project have been identified, and construction can finish in time for the new lane to open as soon as 2025, within five fiscal years of enactment.

The project enjoys support from Caltrans, City of Lake Elsinore, Greater Corona Traffic Alliance, Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce, Riverside Transit Agency, Southern California Association of Governments, Temecula Valley Chamber of Commerce, and Western Riverside Council of Governments, and has received thousands of engagements from the community via social media.

The I-15 COP merits surface transportation reauthorization Member Designated Project funding because of the immediate positive effect it will have on our region's residents, the economy, and the environment. I encourage you to give it full and fair consideration.

Please contact me at (951) 787-7141 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Anne Mayer

Executive Director



# GREATER RIVERSIDE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

*The Chamber...building a stronger local economy*

April 7, 2021

The Honorable Ken Calvert  
United States House of Representatives  
U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

## **RE: Riverside County Transportation Commission's Community Project Funding Request – SUPPORT**

Dear Congressman Calvert,

On behalf of the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce, representing over 1,200 local employers and 110,000 jobs in the Inland Southern California region, I am writing to express our strong SUPPORT for the Riverside County Transportation Commission's (RCTC) \$3 million Community Project Funding request for the Interstate 15 Corridor Operations Project (I-15 COP). This \$38 million project is regionally significant, socially equitable, and will benefit the health and safety of our region's residents, businesses, and freight and goods movement.

The project proposes to add an auxiliary lane on southbound I-15 between Cajalco Road in Corona and Weirick Road in Temescal Valley in Riverside County. The auxiliary lane is designed to relieve heavy traffic congestion in this area, especially during peak afternoon commute times, by removing a bottleneck to accommodate existing and future traffic volumes. The project will also be compatible with other RCTC planned I-15 corridor improvements, such as the future I-15 Express Lanes Project Southern Extension, expected to be open as early as 2028.

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## GREATER RIVERSIDE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

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*The Chamber...building a stronger local economy*

Riverside-San Bernardino metropolitan area. Due to rapid population growth in recent years in the California Mojave Desert region, I-15 has become a heavily traveled commuter route between metropolitan Southern California and the Victor Valley. It is also the primary access route between Southern California and Las Vegas with more than 25 million people driving this corridor annually.

I-15 COP deserves Community Project Funding because of the immediate positive effect it will have on our region's residents, the economy, and the environment. I encourage you to give it full and fair consideration.

Thank you for consideration of this important request. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 951-683-7100.

Respectfully,

Cindy Roth  
President/CEO

CR/as



**Riverside Transit Agency**

1825 Third Street  
P.O. Box 59968  
Riverside, CA 92517-1968  
Phone: (951) 565-5000  
Fax: (951) 565-5001

April 6, 2021

The Honorable Ken Calvert  
United States House of Representatives  
U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

**Subject: Support for the Riverside County Transportation Commission's  
Community Project Funding Request**

Dear Congressman Calvert:

I am writing to express Riverside Transit Agency's (RTA) strong support for the Riverside County Transportation Commission's (RCTC) \$3 million Community Project Funding request for the Interstate 15 Corridor Operations Project (I-15 COP). This \$38 million project is regionally significant, socially equitable, and will benefit the health and safety of our region's residents, businesses, and freight and goods movement.

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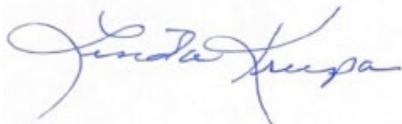
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I-15 COP deserves Community Project Funding because of the immediate positive effect it will have on our region's residents, the economy, and the environment. I encourage you to give it full and fair consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Linda Krupa". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Linda" being more prominent than the last name "Krupa".

Linda Krupa  
Chair of the Board  
Riverside Transit Agency